

## **Laura A. Meyerson, Ph.D.**

Dr. Laura A. Meyerson is a Professor of Habitat Restoration Ecology in the Department of Natural Resources Science at the University of Rhode Island (URI) and is the Director of the Restoration Science minor in the College of Environment and Life Sciences at URI. Dr. Meyerson teaches courses in Invasion Ecology, Policy and Management, Restoration Ecology, Conservation Biology and Advanced Ecology.

Dr. Meyerson serves at the Associate Editor-in-Chief for the international journal *Biological Invasions* and also serves on the editorial board of the journal *Neobiota*. Since 2011, Dr. Meyerson has held an appointment as a visiting scientist at the Institute of Botany of the Czech Academy of Sciences and since 2015 has served as an International Science Advisor at the Center for Invasion Biology at Stellenbosch University in South Africa. Dr. Meyerson became an Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow in 2009 and was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship in 2011.

Dr. Meyerson earned her masters and doctoral degrees from Yale University, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in 1995 and 2000, respectively. After receiving her doctorate, she taught ecology at Brown University from 2000-01 and then accepted a AAAS Fellowship at the US Environmental Protection Agency (ORD NCEA) and was detailed to the Global Invasive Species Programme and the National Invasive Species Council from 2001-03. From 2003-05 she worked with the H. John Heinz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment on national level indicators for non-native species and for ecosystem services.

Dr. Meyerson's current research is global in scale and focuses on the mechanisms that facilitate the spread of invasive plants with particular emphasis on changes in plant traits over large spatial scales including fitness, plant chemistry, genome size, polyploidy and genetics. Much of her work uses the cosmopolitan grass, *Phragmites australis*, as a model species to address questions about the interaction of plant genomes with the environment and outcomes for plant success. Dr. Meyerson has published >100 journal articles and peer-reviewed reports on both science and policy.